

WHAT IS CLAIMED AS NEW AND DESIRED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS
PATENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS:

Sub 7
5

1. A method comprising the steps of:

monitoring a first device by a second device;

determining, by the second device, whether a current device driver in the first device is a desired device driver; and

first transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the current device driver in the first device is different from the desired device driver, wherein the current device driver and the desired device driver are configured to control operations of the first device.

2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of first transferring further comprises:

first transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device using at least one of a direct connection message, a network mail message and an electronic mail message when it is determined that the current device driver in the first device is different from the desired device driver, wherein the current device driver and the desired device driver are configured to control operations of the first device.

3. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the first device is connected to a first network and the second device is connected to a second network.

4. The method according to Claim 3, wherein the first and second networks are connected by a third network.

5. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of first transferring further comprises:

first transferring the desired device driver and desired device driver information from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the current device driver in the first device is different from the desired device driver, wherein the current device driver and the desired device driver are configured to control operations of the first device.

6. The method according to Claim 5, wherein the desired device driver information includes at least one of

information indicating a version of the desired device driver,
an effective date of the desired device driver, and
an indication of an operating system for the desired device driver.

7. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of:
second transferring the desired device driver from the first device to a third device.

8. The method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of:
determining whether a user of the third device desires the desired device driver to be transferred to the third device when the user of the third device accesses the first device, wherein the step of second transferring further comprises

second transferring the newest device driver from the first device to the third device when it is determined that the user of the third device desires the desired device driver to be transferred to the third device.

9. A method comprising the steps of:

determining whether a user of a first device desires a desired device driver of a second device to be transferred to the first device when the user of the first device accesses the second device; and

5 transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the user of the first device desires the desired device driver of the second device to be transferred to the first device, wherein the desired device driver is configured to control operations of the second device.

10 10. The method according to Claim 9, wherein the step of transferring further comprises:

transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the user of the first device desires the desired device driver of the second device to be transferred to the first device using at least one of a direct connection message, a network mail message and an electronic mail message, wherein
15 the desired device driver is configured to control operations of the second device, and wherein the second device comprises a business office appliance.

11. A system comprising:

a first device; and

a second device configured to monitor the first device, to determine whether a
20 current device driver in the first device is a desired device driver; and to transfer the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the current device driver in the first device is different from the desired device

driver, wherein the current device driver and the desired device driver are configured to control operations of the first device.

12. The system according to Claim 11, wherein second device is further configured to transfer the desired device driver from the second device to the first device using at least one of a direct connection message, a network mail message and an electronic mail message.

13. The system according to Claim 11, wherein the first device is connected to a first network and the second device is connected to a second network.

14. The system according to Claim 13, wherein the first and second networks are connected by a third network.

15. The system according to Claim 11, wherein the second device is further configured to transfer desired device driver information from the second device to the first device.

16. The system according to Claim 15, wherein the desired device driver information includes at least one of

information indicating a version of the desired device driver,

an effective date of the desired device driver, and

an indication of an operating system for the desired device driver.

17. The system according to Claim 11, wherein the first device is configured to transfer the desired device driver from the first device to a third device.

18. The system according to Claim 17, wherein the third device is configured to determine whether a user of the third device desires the desired device driver to be

transferred to the third device when the user of the third device accesses the first device, and wherein the first device is further configured to transfer the newest device driver from the first device to the third device when the third device determines that the user of the third device desires the desired device driver to be transferred to the third device.

19. A system comprising:

a first device; and

a second device, wherein the first device is configured to determine whether a user of the first device desires a desired device driver of a second device to be transferred to the first device when the user of the first device accesses the second device, and the second device is configured to transfer the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when the first device determines that the user of the first device desires the desired device driver of the second device to be transferred to the first device, wherein the desired device driver is configured to control operations of the second device.

20. The system according to Claim 19, wherein the second device is configured to transfer the desired device driver from the second device to the first device using at least one of a direct connection message, a network mail message and an electronic mail message, and wherein the second device comprises a business office appliance.

21. A program product including a computer readable medium embodying program instructions for causing a system to perform the steps of:

monitoring a first device by a second device;

determining, by the second device, whether a current device driver in the first device is a desired device driver; and

first transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the current device driver in the first device is different from the desired device driver, wherein the current device driver and the desired device driver are configured to control operations of the first device.

22. The program product according to Claim 21, wherein the step of first transferring further comprises:

first transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device using at least one of a direct connection message, a network mail message and an electronic mail message when it is determined that the current device driver in the first device is different from the desired device driver, wherein the current device driver and the desired device driver are configured to control operations of the first device.

23. The program product according to Claim 21, wherein the first device is connected to a first network and the second device is connected to a second network.

24. The program product according to Claim 23, wherein the first and second networks are connected by a third network.

25. The program product according to Claim 21, wherein the step of first transferring further comprises:

first transferring the desired device driver and desired device driver information from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the current device driver in the first device is different from the desired device driver,

wherein the current device driver and the desired device driver are configured to control operations of the first device.

26. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein the desired device driver information includes at least one of

5 information indicating a version of the desired device driver,

an effective date of the desired device driver, and

an indication of an operating system for the desired device driver.

27. The program product according to Claim 21, wherein the computer readable medium further embodies program instructions for causing the system to perform the step of:

10 second transferring the desired device driver from the first device to a third device.

28. The program product according to Claim 27, wherein the computer readable medium further embodies program instructions for causing the system to perform the step of:

15 determining whether a user of the third device desires the desired device driver to be transferred to the third device when the user of the third device accesses the first device, wherein the step of second transferring further comprises

20 second transferring the newest device driver from the first device to the third device when it is determined that the user of the third device desires the desired device driver to be transferred to the third device.

29. A program product including a computer readable medium embodying program instructions for causing a system to perform the steps of:

determining whether a user of a first device desires a desired device driver of a second device to be transferred to the first device when the user of the first device accesses the second device; and

transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the user of the first device desires the desired device driver of the second device to be transferred to the first device, wherein the desired device driver is configured to control operations of the second device.

30. The program product according to Claim 29, wherein the step of transferring further comprises

transferring the desired device driver from the second device to the first device when it is determined that the user of the first device desires the desired device driver of the second device to be transferred to the first device using at least one of a direct connection message, a network mail message and an electronic mail message, wherein the desired device driver is configured to control operations of the second device, and wherein the second device comprises a business office appliance.